AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from halogeno, cyano, nitro, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, -N(OH)R^{12} (wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, or C_{1-3}alkyl), or $R^{14}X^1$- (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH_2-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{15}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{16}-, -SO_2NR^{17}-, -$NR^{18}SO_2$- or -NR^{19}- (wherein R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18} and R^{19} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{14} is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy); in the preparation of a medicament for use in the ~~inhibtion~~ inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

In this specification the term 'alkyl' when used either alone or as a suffix includes straight chained [[,]] or branched structures. Unless otherwise stated, these groups may contain up to 10, preferably up to 6 and more preferably up to 4 carbon atoms. Similarly the terms "alkenyl" and "alkynyl" refer to unsaturated straight or branched structures containing for example from 2 to 10, preferably from 2 to 6 carbon atoms. Cyclic moieties such as cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and cycloalkynyl are similar in nature but have at least 3 carbon atoms. Terms such as "alkoxy" comprise alkyl groups as is understood in the art.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

3) -$R^bX^3R^{25}$ (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -OC(O)-, -NR^{26}C(O)-, -NR^{26}C(O)O-, -C(O)NR^{27}-, -C(O)ONR^{27}-, -SO_2NR^{28}-, -$NR^{29}SO_2$- or -NR^{30}- (wherein R^{26}, R^{27},

R^{28}, R^{29} and R^{30} each independently represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R^{25} represents hydrogen, hydrocarbyl (as defined herein) or a saturated heterocyclic group, wherein the hydrocarbyl or heterocyclic groups may be optionally substituted by one or more functional groups and the heterocyclic groups may additionally be substituted by a hydrocarbyl group);

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

9) R^{38} (wherein R^{38} represents a pyridone group, an aryl group or an aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally ~~susbsituted~~ substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups;

Please replace the bridging paragraph between pages 8 and 9 with the following amended paragraph:

22) - R^{v} $R^{63}(R^{v'})_q(X^9)_rR^{64}$(wherein X^9 is as defined hereinbefore, q is 0 or 1, r is 0 or 1, and R^{63} is a C_{1-3}alkylene group or a cyclic group selected from divalent cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group, which C_{1-3}alkylene group may be substituted by one or more functional groups and which cyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally subsituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups; and R^{64} is hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, or a cyclic group selected from cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may be substituted by one or more functional groups and which cyclic group ~~may be substituted by one or more~~ may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl

groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

and wherein R^a, R^b, [[,]] R^c, $R^{c'}$, R^d, R^g, R^j, R^n, $R^{n'}$ R^p, R^{p1}, $R^{t'}$, $R^{u'}$, R^v and $R^{v'}$ are independently selected from C_{1-8}alkylene groups optionally substitued by one or more functional groups,

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

R^f, R^i, R^m and R^u are independently selected from C_{2-8}alkynylene groups optionally substituted by one or more functional groups).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

In particular R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from, halogeno, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, $-NR^{12}R^{13}$ (wherein R^{12} and R^{13}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, or C_{1-3}alkyl and one of R^{12} or R^{13} may additionally be hydroxy), or $R^{14}X^1$- [[(]]wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2$-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$-, $-NR^{15}C(O)$-, $-C(O)NR^{16}$-, $-SO_2NR^{17}$-, $-NR^{18}SO_2$- or $-NR^{19}$- (wherein R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18} and R^{19} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{14} is selected from one of the following groups:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13 line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

2') C_{1-5}alkylX^2COR^{20} (wherein X^2 represents -O- or -NR^{21}- (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{21} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, -$NR^{22}R^{23}$ or -OR^{24} (wherein R^{22}, R^{23} and R^{24} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

9') R^{38} (wherein R^{38} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents on an available carbon atom selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -$CONR^{39}R^{40}$ and -$NR^{41}COR^{42}$ (wherein R^{39}, R^{40}, R^{41} and R^{42}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

and R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo,C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, di(C_{1-4}alkoxy)methyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl,

C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from, halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR^9R^{10}$ (wherein R^9 and R^{10}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl), or $-X^1R^{14}$ [[(]]wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2-$, -OCO-, carbonyl, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{12}CO-$, $-CONR^{12}-$, $-SO_2NR^{12}-$, $-NR^{13}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{14}-$ (wherein R^{12}, R^{13} and R^{14} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{14} is selected from one of the following groups:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

17') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{37} (wherein X^9 and R^{37} are as defined hereinbefore (in 5'))) in the preparation of a medicament for use in the ~~inhibtion~~ inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace the bridging paragraph between pages 20-21 with the following amended paragraph:

and R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo,C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, di(C_{1-4}alkoxy)methyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

2') C_{1-5}alkylX^2COR^{20} (wherein X^2 represents -O- or -NR^{21}- (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{21} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, -$NR^{22}R^{23}$ or -OR^{24} (wherein R^{22}, R^{23} and R^{24} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

17') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{37} (wherein X^9 and R^{37} are as defined hereinbefore (in 5') in the preparation of a medicament for use in the ~~inhibtion~~ inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo,C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, di(C_{1-4}alkoxy)methyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

2') C_{1-5}alkylX^2COR^{20} (wherein X^2 represents -O- or -NR^{21}- (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{21} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, -$NR^{22}R^{23}$ or -OR^{24} (wherein R^{22}, R^{23} and R^{24} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

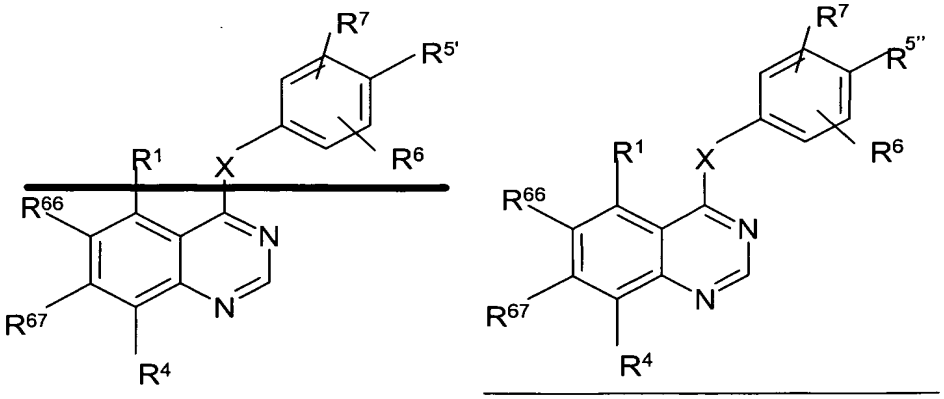
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

9') R^{38} (wherein R^{38} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents on an available carbon atom selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -$CONR^{39}R^{40}$ and -$NR^{41}COR^{42}$ (wherein R^{39}, R^{40}, R^{41} and R^{42}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

17') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{37} (wherein X^9 and R^{37} are as defined hereinbefore (in 5') in the preparation of a medicament for use in the ~~inhibtion~~ inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace formula (IVB) begining on page 33, line 9, with the following formula:



Please insert the following abstract, as shown on the next page, on a new page at the end of the specification: